

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for assessing a person's hand strength comprising:

means for engaging the hand;

means for determining the strength of the hand based on a twisting action with the hand of the engaging means relative to the determining means, the engaging means connected to the determining means, the determining means includes a torque sensor and a housing in which the torque sensor is disposed, the engaging means includes a first object connected to the torque sensor and extending from the housing having a first diameter which simulates opening a jar with the hand by the person when the person turns the first object; and

an indicator that shows the strength of the hand.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): An apparatus as described in Claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1 wherein the engaging means includes a second object connected to the torque sensor and

extending from the housing having a second diameter less than the first diameter that can replace the first object which simulates turning a key with the hand by the person when the person turns the second object.

Claim 6 (original): An apparatus as described in Claim 5 wherein the determining means has a display which displays torque sensed by the torque sensor.

Claim 7 (original): An apparatus as described in Claim 6 wherein the determining means includes securing means attached to the housing that holds the housing in place.

Claim 8 (original): An apparatus as described in Claim 7 wherein the securing means includes suction cups.

Claim 9 (original): An apparatus as described in Claim 8 wherein the first object is a first disk and the second object is a second disk.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for assessing a person's hand strength comprising the steps of:

gripping a first object having a first diameter with the hand by the person;

twisting the first object with the hand; ~~[[and]]~~

measuring torque with a torque sensor, connected to the first object, of the object as it is being twisted by the hand ~~[[.]]; and~~

replacing the first object with a second object having a second diameter less than the first diameter, and repeating the gripping, twisting and measuring steps with the second object.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method as described in Claim ~~[[11]]~~ 10 including the step of securing a housing, from which the first object extends and in which the torque sensor is disposed, in place on to a structure.

Claim 13 (original): A method as described in Claim 12 including the step of displaying the torque measured by the torque sensor.